

Containment Laboratory Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Board Room City Hall Frederick
101 North Court Street Frederick MD
September 13, 2011
7:00 pm

Members Present:

The Honorable David Gray, Commissioner (County Representative)
Ms. Roxanne Beal (Alternate Member)
Dr. F. Alex Hamill, Secretary (At-Large Member)
Mr. Peter Herz (At-Large Member)
Ms. Lanessa Hill (US Army Garrison Liaison)
Mr. Ray Hunter (At-Large Member)
Mr. Kim R. Loll (Alternate Committee Member)
Mr. Joseph A. Mangiafico, Sr. (Private-Sector Health Field Member)
Ms. Cynthia I. Sigler (At-Large Member)
Ms. Beth A. Willis, Chair (At-Large Member)
The Honorable Karen Young, Alderman (City Representative)

Members Not Present:

Mr. David P. Kaye, Vice-Chair (Private-Sector Life Sciences Industry Member)

Others Present:

Members of the general public

- I. Call to order:** Ms. Beth Willis called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Ms. Willis advised the meeting was being televised live.
- II. Roll call:** Members present introduced themselves.
- III. Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the August meeting.
- IV. Open issues (Old Business)**
 - A) Minute-taker:** Cynthia Sigler
 - B) Review sample FAQ's and next steps:** Mr. Herz sent first version earlier today (13 Sep 2011). Ms. Willis suggested that we get some items posted before the entire project completed. Suggestions included adding glossary of terms

(pathogen, select agent) and making sure that answers and terminology are usable by community; hyperlink words or additional links to information.

C) Report out (part 2) on June 3rd tour of EOC, steam plant and incinerator:

Mr. Herz reported the following: three (3) new steam plants on line by Spring 2012. Observed treatment of lab effluents. Steam provided from central steam plant on base. Fifteen (15) day lab waste storage capability; can request that labs stop flow if major issue identified. New plant will decrease the distance effluent will need to travel. Double wall pipes. Incinerator plant effectively run and has been recognized in the industry for its effective continuous emissions monitoring program-tested every 24 hrs. Waste never store at incineration site except for annual stack test. Ash handling process tested annually. One (1) test failed in 20 yrs due to high barium. Incineration is not just biomedical waste, but includes all waste from post. Plans are to decommission and mothball old plant.

D) Update on recommending oversight regulation at State for private BSL-3 laboratories;

Ms. Young has spoken with official in State of MD to see if there are other communities with high containment laboratories outside of government facilities similar to those in Frederick County. State delegation will meet with city early December; CLCAC should determine if there is a specific recommendation before then CLCAC Committee or representatives could meet in person or in conference call with rep from MDE to discuss questions about oversight of BSL-3 labs.

V. New Business

A) Report-back on September 8 meetings with Homeland Security and National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Disease officials;

Committee members expressed that the tours were well-handled and that management answered most questions and were very cooperative. Mr. Hunter acknowledged that management was not defensive and listened. It was noted from the HVAC system layout tour that equipment was well labeled, easy to work with and had ample space to work in. Security clearance appeared strict. Dr. Hamill noted that there was good interaction with the Homeland Security contractor (Batelle) and a good level of information exchange. Mr. Herz noted that the DHS lab acknowledged doing classified research. Ms. Willis felt confident in being able to work with these institutions going forward in an effort to provide information to the public. Ms. Young commended the group on the quality of questions. Mr. Gray reminded the committee that all labs are managed individually and there is no single management for all labs on the base. National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Disease and Homeland Security labs are substantially completed; however, it may be a year before these facilities are fully operational.

B) Review preliminary draft CLCAC report: The committee agreed to the following changes: Clarify wording to make clear that laboratories discussed are containment labs. Need to re-examine use of recommendations and change

section heading to Conclusions and Observations. Current “recommendations” could be restated as concerns. An example could be to cite DOE success with NRC. Ms. Willis noted that “NIBC” is not an administrative entity and has no central oversight over other labs managed by other government agencies. . Rework recommendation on landlord function to observation.

Consensus was that report should focus on reflecting what committee has accomplished to date; move Next Steps to end of report

C) Announcements:

- a. Meeting with BoCC end of month. 3pm October 4. All on committee are invited to attend
 - i. City of Frederick presentation will be November 2, 3pm
- b. Change of command at USAMRIID 27 Sep and appreciation to Col. Skovorak
- c. Change of Frederick News Post journalist and appreciation to Megan Eckstein

D) Next meeting: Tuesday October 11, 2011 at 7 pm

Outstanding Questions/Concerns Raised by Committee:

For other BSL3 labs outside Ft Detrick who assures that labs are cleaned and no longer contaminated?

VI. Public Comment Period: comments from public received and discussed.

Action Items (Old and New):

Ms. Sigler will prepare and distribute Minutes for comment and update prior to posting. Committee should send Mr. Herz comments on FAQs within week.

Ms. Hill will check on status of old steam sterilization plant.

Ms. Young will check regarding setting up conference call with appropriate officials , State of MD regarding private BSL3 laboratory oversight.

Ms. Willis will generate letter to thank officials at labs for tours and briefings. Committee—

Committee should send Ms. Willis any follow-up questions from lab briefings.

Ms. Willis and Mr. Loll will work on retooling “landlord paragraph” from annual report. Ms Willis will send out revised report, which will be finalized at October meeting.

VII. Adjournment: 9:12pm